

Message Text

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CU/EA:VCOOPER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234937

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TQ, JA, PFOR, SCUL

SUBJECT: TTPI - JAPANESE "LEADER GRANT" PROGRAM IN
MICRONESIA

REF: TTPI NO. 613 (HICOMTERPACIS DTG 170533Z OCT 74)

CINCPACREP PASS TO HICOM AND STATUS LNO SAIPAN

1. REFTTEL REPORTS HICOM HAS RECEIVED QUERY FROM GOJ
FONOFF REP VISITING SAIPAN CONCERNING USG POSITION AND
VIEWS RE GOJ INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS BEING MADE
AVAILABLE TO MICRONESIAN LEADERS.

2. FOR EMBASSY TOKYO: PLEASE DRAW FONOFF ATTENTION TO
QUERY RECEIVED BY HICOM, AND, IF YOU SEE NO
OBJECTION, DISCUSS WITH FONOFF ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. REQUEST ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FONOFF CAN PROVIDE
RE GOJ PLANS TO INITIATE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANT
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PROGRAM FOR TTPI, E.G. NUMBERS OF GRANTEEES ENVISAGED ON

ANNUAL BASIS, TYPES OF ITINERARIES GRANTEES WOULD HAVE, CATEGORIES OF MICRONESIAN LEADERS GOJ INTERESTED IN, AND TIME PERIOD WHEN GOJ CONTEMPLATES OFFERING INITIAL GRANTS. ALSO INQUIRE WHETHER GOJ IS THINKING OF OFFERING LEADER GRANTS TO GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA.

B. SAY THAT USG HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO GOJ INITIATING INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS FOR MICRONESIANS.

C. NOTE THAT GOJ PROGRAM, DEPENDING ON ITS SIZE, TIMING AND SELECTION PROCESSES, COULD HAVE SOME IMPACT ON DELICATE MICRONESIAN POLITICAL SITUATION.

D. SUGGEST IN LOW-KEY MANNER THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO GOJ AND HELPFUL TO USG IF GOJ WOULD CONSULT WITH USG INFORMALLY ON SELECTION OF GRANTEES. EMPHASIZE THAT SUGGESTED CONSULTATIONS ARE NOT INTENDED TO IMPLY US WISH TO HAVE "VETO" AUTHORITY OVER SELECTION OF GRANTEES BUT THAT WE WISH TO ASSIST GOJ IN AVOIDING VERY REAL POLITICAL PITFALLS THAT EXIST DURING PRESENT SENSITIVE TRANSITION PERIOD TO SELF-GOVERNMENT. ALSO EMPHASIZE NEED FOR BALANCE AND FOR AVOIDING ANY APPEARANCE OF FAVORING GRANTEES WHO TEND TO EXTREMIST POLITICAL VIEWS.

E. SUGGEST THAT THIS CONSULTATIVE PROCESS CAN BEST BE HANDLED IN TOKYO BETWEEN FONOFF AND EMBASSY (WHICH WOULD IN TURN CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON AND TTPI) OR IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN JAPANESE EMBASSY AND STATE (EA/ANP).

F. NOTE THAT USG HAS INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM FOR TTPI AT LEVEL OF 12 GRANTS A YEAR. PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT AUSTRALIA DOES NOT HAVE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR TTPI BUT DID RECENTLY MAKE TWO GRANTS AVAILABLE TO MICRONESIANS ON AD HOC BASIS UNDER AUSTRALIAN OVERSEAS VISITOR PROGRAM, IN CONSULTATION WITH USG.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING EMBASSY TOKYO REPORT ON ITS DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH FONOFF ALONG WITH ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY MIGHT WISH TO MAKE. PLEASE INCLUDE CONFIDENTIAL

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HICOM AND STATUS LNO SAIPAN ON DISTRIBUTION.

4. FOR HICOM AND STATUS LNO: PLEASE HOLD OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO FONOFF REP QUERY IN ABEYANCE UNTIL WE HAVE BENEFIT OF EMBASSY TOKYO VIEWS AND REPORT OF EMBASSY DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF. INGERSOLL

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